GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1478
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2005
LPG FACILITIES IN RURAL AREAS
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the policy and action plan formulated in regard to make LPG available in rural areas of each State in the country ;

(b) the names of the States including Rajasthan where gas agencies have not been opened despite being included in Gas Agency Marketing Scheme during the last three years ;

(c) the time by which the gas agencies are likely to be opened at those places ; and

(d) the names of places where alternative arrangements for gas supply have been made and the rates at which gas would be supplied at those places ?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS & PANCHAYATI RAJ(SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) to (d) : Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) supply domestic LPG through their distribution network and they have the freedom to set up LPG distributorships at viable locations as per their commercial considerations. The setting up of LPG distributorships is a continuous process and it involves identifying of a suitable location, arranging land for setting up of godown and other statutory clearances. In view of this, it is not possible to indicate a specific time frame for setting up of agencies in rural areas of the country, including those in Rajasthan. However, with a view to covering the uncovered blocks/tehsils/mandals, the OMCs have taken initiative in introducing 5 kg cylinders and setting up community kitchens. As a matter of policy, Government have also advised OMCs to concentrate their future expansion plans in semi-urban and rural areas. The details of places where gas agencies are likely to be opened in the near future in the country are available with Director(Marketing) of OMCs.